Allen Scott Report
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A Curious

Promotion

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Mr. Allen

obviously an intelligence officer who was just doing his job earing LHO's return and thus not punished but promoted to another security job

WASHINGTON — Boris H. Klosson, the State Department official who played a key role in clearing the way for Lee Harvey Oswald's return from Russia, is slated for a major promotion.

A career foreign service officer, Klosson is scheduled to replace Frank C. Siscoe as the department's director of Soviet and Eastern European exchange staffs.

While no official announcement of his new assignment has been made, Klosson has checked in at the department from Kingston, Jamaica, where he served as deputy chief of the U.S. mission. On the Foreign Service roster, he lists Siscoe's room number and telephone as his forwarding address.

In this strategic position, Klosson will be in charge of State Department authorities arranging the exchange and screening of several thousand U.S., Russian and Soviet bloc scientists, educators, artists, actors and students.

The security implications of the exchange programs Klosson will be handling are clearly indicated in testimony given a House Appropriations Subcommittee by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

He warned that spies are included in virtually every Soviet group that visits the U.S.—diplomats, scientists, businessmen, students and cultural exchange missions—stating:

"The numerous Soviet scientific and cultural delegations which arrive in the U.S. to visit our universities and scientific establishments invariably have among their members scientists who have been given special assignments by the KGB (Soviet secret police, intelligence and assassination organization)."

According to the records of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy, Klosson was U.S. counselor for political affairs in Moscow in 1961 when Oswald sought visas for himself and his new wife to return to the U.S. Oswald had gone to Russia in 1959.

FBI officials credit Klosson with clearing the way for Oswald's return by sending the State Department a three-page report, dated July 11, 1961, indicating the defector had undergone a major change of heart and was not dangerous.

Titled "Citizenship and Passports — Lee Harvey Oswald," Foreign Service Dispatch No. 29 was signed by Klosson and stated, in part, as follows:

"Twenty months of the realities of life in the Soviet Union have clearly had a maturing effect on Oswald. He (Oswald) stated frankly that he had learned a hard lesson the hard way and that he had been completely relieved of his illusions about the Soviet Union at the same time that he acquired a new understanding and appreciation of the U.S. and meaning of freedom.

". . . Much of the arrogance and bravado which characterized him on his first visit to the embassy appears to have left him."

Little noticed testimony before the Warren Commission pinpointed a number of errors in the dispatch dealing with information about Marina, the Russian girl Oswald married on April 30, 1961.

Klosson's vital communication reported Oswald's bride as being Marina Nikelaevna Pusakova instead of Marina Nikelaevna Prusakova, and listed her occupation as "dental technician" instead of "assistant pharmacist."

Two congressional committees are quietly looking into Klosson's new assignment and his role in paving the way for Oswald's return to the U.S.

A House Appropriations Subcommittee in charge of funds for U.S.-Soviet exchange programs already has questioned Abba Schwartz, head of the Bureau of Security & Consular Affairs, about Klosson's dispatch.

Representative John Slack, Jr. (D-W. Va.), member of the subcommittee, is seeking additional information about Klosson from both the State and Justice Departments.

The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, headed by Representative Michael Feighan, D-Ohio, also is seeking further details about Klosson's dispatch, and why he is being given the important new assignment in the light of his bad judgment of Oswald.

Klosson's proposed appointment will be reviewed by Feighan's subcommittee when it takes another look at the East-West exchange program later this month, after reporting out a revised version of President Johnson's immigration proposal.

Klosson, 46, was born in Buffalo, N.Y., and has been in the State Department since 1945. He joined the department after World War II.

AFTER SEEN BY HOUSE
File
Robert Sharon Allen

This is the term used in message from Mexico 10 Oct 63 (#74830) — U.S.
4/26/66

To Mendoza for Oswald file